

## **Remarks**

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 101***

Pending claims 19, 20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is traversed in view of the amendments made to claims 19, 20 and 22.

In claim 20, the wording “program... stored on a computer-readable medium” is replaced with “machine-readable storage medium comprising a plurality of instructions”. The amended claim is thus directed to an article of manufacture enabling the plurality of instructions to act as a computer component.

Claims 19 and 22 are amended correspondingly, to also refer to a “machine-readable storage medium”.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112***

Pending claims 19, 20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. This rejection is traversed in view of the amendments made to p.10 of the specification.

Page 10 is amended for conformity with the wording of claim 20. Namely, the phrase “program for a computer in a machine readable format” is replaced with “machine-readable storage medium comprising a plurality of instructions”. Thus, the subject matter of the claim is supported in the specification. It is submitted that one skilled in the art would have no difficulty in making or using such a machine-readable storage medium and would immediately realize the equivalence of this phrase and “program for a computer in a machine readable format”.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102***

All pending claims stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Rajarajan et al. (US 2002/0120784). This rejection is traversed in light of the amendments to claims 1 and 8, and the following remarks.

The Examiner's "Response to Arguments" – in which the Examiner rejects the applicants' arguments filed March 7, 2008 – is based on several misconceptions.

The applicants have argued that Rajarajan does not disclose "generating an adaptive software interface". In response, the Examiner states that the "applicant contends that the prior art is not applicable because such language is not literally cited with the art". For the avoidance of doubt, the applicants contend that the step of "generating an adaptive software interface" (or indeed generating any kind of software interface) is not disclosed in Rajarajan. This fact is independent of any consideration of whether Rajarajan is applicable as prior art. Whether applicable or not, Rajarajan does not disclose this step and therefore cannot disclose every feature recited in claim 1. It follows, therefore, that Rajarajan cannot anticipate claim 1 (even if it is applicable prior art). The applicants' contention has nothing to do with the presence or absence of the literal wording "generating an adaptive software interface" in Rajarajan. Rather it is based on the absence of any technical teaching of such a feature, in any terms whatsoever.

If the Examiner wishes to persist with continued assertions that Rajarajan anticipates the subject matter of claim 1, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner identifies the specific teaching of Rajarajan which is being equated with the feature in claim 1 of "generating an adaptive software interface". A software interface is a programmatic mechanism by which software components communicate. An adaptive software interface is a version-independent interface, which enables successful communication despite different versions of an interface having been compiled into each software component – that is, which allows communication despite differences

between the interfaces of each object. Rajarajan is totally silent on this problem and so it is unsurprising that it is equally silent on any remedy whatsoever – let alone the specific solution offered by the current invention.

The Examiner points out that the feature “generating an adaptive software interface” resides in the preamble of claim 1. This is undoubtedly true; however, the feature also resides in the body of the claim, where the applicants believe it should have been accorded “patentable weight”. Nonetheless, claim 1 has been amended to remove the feature from the preamble, so that it resides only in the body of the claim. Thus, the final feature recited in claim 1 is (and always has been) “generating in accordance with said established compatibility the adaptive software interface for the two entities”.

The next misconception relates to the Examiner’s understanding of the applicants’ arguments. The Examiner believes that the applicants have asserted that the “compatibility of claim 1 is still contextual semantic compatibility, not compatibility of interfaces”. The applicants apologize for any confusion caused; however, they have in fact asserted the opposite. The applicants have pointed out that whereas Rajarajan is concerned with contextual semantic compatibility (of a set of semantics with a notational/graphical element), the invention of claim 1 is concerned with compatibility of interfaces. This is clear from the feature of “analysing said collated semantic information elements to establish the extent to which the interface capabilities of said at least two networked entities are compatible”, recited in claim 1.

In light of the above explanations, clarifications and minor adjustment to claim 1 the applicants respectfully repeat their earlier arguments in favor of the novelty of this claim.

Turning to claim 8, this claim is amended to incorporate the features of claim 10, which is cancelled. That is, it is specified in claim 8 that the semantic information elements describe a characteristic of an interface of each entity. As noted above,

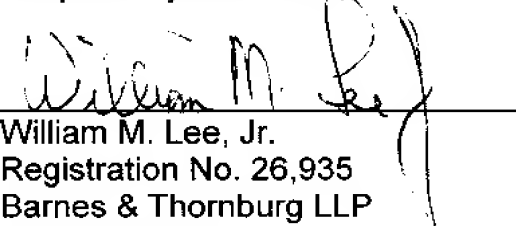
Rajarajan is not concerned with characteristics or compatibility of interfaces between software entities. Thus, Rajarajan does not disclose said features of generating, collating and analyzing "meta-data providing a structure containing at least one semantic information element describing a characteristic of an interface" for each of the entities. On the basis of at least this feature, claim 8 is novel.

Regarding the novelty of claim 18, the applicants repeat their arguments of March 7, 2008, to which the Examiner appears not to have responded.

In view of the fact that all of the Examiner's comments have been addressed, further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

August 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



---

William M. Lee, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,935  
Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
P.O. Box 2786  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786  
(312) 214-4800  
(312) 759-5646 (fax)